





## CURRENT GOSSIP.

## A CHRISTMAS SECRET.

A STORY FOR THE LITTLE ONES.  
A dear little girl, who has bright, sparkling eyes, is going to give my Papa a surprise, For Christmas is coming, you know! I've ever so many— Just see what an awful long row!"

But what will you buy him, my little dear girl? Asked Mamma, as she twined round her fingers a wreath; Come tell me about it," said she.

"I guess I don't dare, Just 'cause I'd afraid you Will go right off straight and tell 'em."

"Now, Minnie, you know!" There's comin' look! see."

"I guess you're comin' on." "Now, I 'spect he'll say,

"I've got no further to go, but I'll tell him."

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## THE CITY.

## GENERAL NEWS.

A meeting to organize a temperance society will be held in Apollo Lodge, corner of State and Twenty-eighth streets, at 8 p.m. sharp to-morrow.

The employees of the billiard-hall which bears his name yesterday presented to Mr. Emanuel Brunswick a very fine gold-headed cane, suitably inscribed.

Mr. Joseph Thomas, retail manager of Vergo, Ruping & Co., received a handsome gift in the shape of a silver water-pitcher from the employees last evening.

Thomas McGrane, an Irishman, 46 years of age, residing at No. 846 State street, died suddenly Monday evening at his home. Heart disease was the supposed cause of death.

At the hotel intended receiving New Year's Day and with the fact to be announced in the *Times* are requested to send in their names and addresses by noon Saturday.

A New York traveling salesman named C. E. Brighton died at the Briggs House yesterday morning, after an illness of only eighteen hours. He was 54 years of age. The body was put in charge of an undertaker to await the orders of relatives, who have been telegraphed to.

Miner T. Ames, of the Chicago & Milwaukee Coal Company, died on Monday afternoon, the result of a superb cold-headed case. It was a gift from the officers of the Company, all of whom, as well as a number of other prominent citizens, were present at the funeral services which were made by Edward A. Davis in a neat speech, in which the donor briefly and feelingly responded.

Mr. H. Gottsch, a well-known citizen and a large dealer in lumber, died yesterday at his home, 1120 Wabash, at 11 a.m. He had been in poor health for some months, and about the 1st inst. rented his home for the winter and started South in hope of recovery. But on Dec. 10 he returned to Chicago.

He was born in Maine, was 64 years of age, and leaves a wife and five children. He moved West about 1860, and has been here ever since. The family have a son 20 so, and a daughter 16.

He has been here for 20 years, and has made his home in this city, in which he had endeared himself to all who knew him.

**NOTICE.** — Stewart House, New York; D. Stewart, Aylmer, St.; R. D. Burr, New York; H. Bush, Omaha; J. H. Smith, St. Louis; J. C. Morris, St. Paul; J. C. Morris, Leavenworth; D. G. W. Franklin; Frank D. Emerson, Rockford; T. D. Cross, New York; Lee P. Gifford, New York; J. C. Morris, St. Paul; S. H. Clarke, Cleveland; Grand Pacific Hotel — G. W. Mathews, Taylorville; W. D. Lee, Toledo; C. H. Billings, St. Louis; W. L. Austin, Toledo; C. H. Billings, Salt Lake City; Oakley Johnson, Howard, Neb.; O. K. Farnell, Grand Rapids; C. H. Billings, Milwaukee.

**A GENTLE CONVERT.** — "Twas all for love.

It is a very infrequent occurrence for an Israelite to embrace the Christian faith, but it occurs still more infrequently that a Christian embraces the Jewish faith. The Israelites are the most exclusive race on the face of the earth, and their exclusiveness is due to their aversion to intermarriage with them, the maintenance of the purity of the race, from the days of Moses to the present time, is due, in spite of their being scattered over the whole of the civilized world, and being often subjected to ignominious treatment and persecution by Christian and other Gentile powers. Unlike any other race, the Jews employ no missionaries to make converts; on the contrary, if persons wish to embrace the Jewish religion they have to do so on account of the promptings of their own hearts. The Jewish law says: "Converts are not to be admitted to Judaism, but those who convert themselves to the faith, are to be admitted." This is the position which the religion should be persuaded to desist from their design. Nearly all the lies and misfortunes that have befallen the Jewish race in the course of their history have been the result of the regular members of the faith. All possible obstacles are thrown in the path of those desirous to become Jews, and they are only admitted to the faith after it has been but the purest motives. About the only instances where converts to Judaism are received are where obstacles to the union of two loving persons are removed, and where the man is a Christian before she has renounced her religion and embraced Judaism is considered dead to parents and relatives, and is mourned for, and for interment to obtain sympathy over false pretenses. Monday they had a hearing before Justice Foote, and were held in \$3,000 bail for trial.

**SOUTH SIDE STREETS.** — *The Editor of The Tribune.*

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—The condition of the streets in the South Division of the city at the present time calls for some immediate action on the part of the city authorities.

**First.**—As to the "broad-side" question. This, like the silver question, seems to have been thrown up to the public "all of a sudden." But there has been pending before the City Council for over a year an ordinance relating to the use of broad tires on heavy wagons, but the moral courage has never yet had the moral courage to pass the ordinance, or do anything whatever with respect to it. The ordinance regulating the width of the iron tires has been in existence in Cincinnati for years, and should be put into operation here.

"Second" is that it is Madison avenue, which has a very narrow street, and is in an abominable condition? Did it ever occur to any one that almost all the heavy teaming and general traffic are done on those streets, and that what is wanted is to widen them?

For the "broad-side" question, we have to go to the "broad-side" question.

The parents of the young man who had nothing against the young girl, who is a rather good-looking girl, and who had been educated to make a good wife, claim that she was not a virgin.

But, in spite of all opposition, the twain went before a Justice of the Peace, who tied the nuptials knot. The young man was so moved with the devotion of the young man who sacrificed almost everything for her sake that she determined to embrace his religion and thus become a Jew. And, in this case, the parents of the relatives of the bride were present. It is said that they are terribly incensed at the young man, and that they have threatened to kill him, and that she should become a Jewess. There was certainly some fear on that account, because a policeman was present to see that the young man would not prevent a surprise. Everything passed peacefully, however, and according to the plan.

At about 5 o'clock the new convert took the stand in front of a table on which stood four lighted candles. She was dressed in white, and the room was filled with light and fragrance. Gerson addressed her, speaking of the importance she was about to take. He referred to the fact that the Israelites did not desire converts, but if one came, he could easily desire to embrace the Jewish faith, he could not be denied, and must be accepted. To become an Israelite did not require a ceremony or outward show. It must be the action of the heart, and the convert must accept that he is a Jew. The Rev. Dr. Sullivan, who had been present, said that the Queen could have a better foundation. In reply to the question what had been her name, she said that it was Rachel. She then made the following conclusion, in a low, tremulous voice:

"I believe in God, whose only perfect, and who is the author of all that exists, and to him alone worth worship."

"I believe in the laws of His sacred will as taught by Moses, the greatest of prophets."

"I believe in the Sabbath, the sabbath, and that there is in the omniscient providence of God punishment for the wicked, and compensation for the righteous."

"I believe that there is a great and glorious future in store for God's chosen people, the people of Israel, and that they will be the true and one God must, by the sinfulness of his profane and unrighteous acts, make himself despised, and the world which God alone will create in His own good time."

She then said the Hebrew prayer "Shema Yisrael" and the Lord's prayer, and the Queen was greatly moved.

"I believe that the Queen will be taught by the Prince of the world, and that she will be a good wife, and that she will be a good mother, and that she will be a good Christian."

"I believe that she will be a good Christian, and that she will be a good mother, and that she will be a good Christian."

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